

# equalsoc

ECONOMIC CHANGE, QUALITY OF LIFE & SOCIAL COHESION



SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME



## The Equalsoc network and it's Research

*EQUALSOC is a Network of Excellence funded by the European Union's Sixth Framework Programme. EQUALSOC has been created to mobilise and develop research expertise across Europe on economic change, quality of life and social cohesion. ★*

### Aims

Its aim is to stimulate high quality comparative European research on social cohesion and its determinants; encourage the development of additional research centres; provide an infrastructure for training the rising generation of young researchers in the skills of comparative research; and facilitate access to the most recent results of research for the wider research community and for policy makers.

The central focus is on social cohesion and its dependence on social differentiation, assessing the relationships between the growing importance of knowledge in the economy, the different chances that individuals and groups experience with respect to the quality of life, and social cohesion.

Drawing upon the organisational experience acquired in previous successful EU networks, EQUALSOC is using a rich array of data from national research programmes and a European Social Survey module it participated in constructing.

### Timing

The project started in 1 September 2005 and will continue until 31 August 2010.

### Website

The interactive and user-friendly EQUALSOC website is a useful tool for EQUALSOC members in organizing and coordinating research activities. The website contains information about partner institutions participating in the EQUALSOC project, Research Groups and Research Teams, publications (including EQUALSOC Working Papers), upcoming and past events and vacancies. Check [www.equalsoc.org](http://www.equalsoc.org)!

### Events

Various events are organised throughout the year. See For the latest information: [www.equalsoc.org/cpages/events](http://www.equalsoc.org/cpages/events)

### Research

The network's objective is to make a major contribution to advancing knowledge about how factors such as employment, income, education, housing, urban conditions, and life-styles inter-relate and affect personal well-being and psychological health.

EQUALSOC is exploring how far differential life chances reinforce differences between social categories – e.g. gender, class and ethnicity – and the role of inter-generational inheritance processes in sustaining such differences over time. Also, the network is assessing the implications of social inequalities and social differentiation for social cohesion at the micro, meso and macro levels, including the effects of institutional differences and the scope for policy intervention.

These themes are explored by six EQUALSOC Research Groups.

## Research Groups

<b>EMPLOY</b>	Employment and the Labour Market
<b>INCDIS</b>	Income Distribution, Consumption, and Income Mobility
<b>EDUC</b>	Education, Social Mobility and Social Cohesion
<b>FAMNET</b>	Family and Social Networks
<b>SOCCULT</b>	Social and Cultural Differentiation
<b>TRALEG</b>	Trust, Associations and Legitimacy

More information on Research Groups' profiles, coordinators and participants is available on the EQUALSOC website: [www.equalsoc.org](http://www.equalsoc.org)



## Contact

For more information on the project,  
please contact Prof. dr H.G. (Herman) van de Werfhorst,  
Tel. +31 20-525....., Fax. +31 20-525 4301  
Email [h.g.vandewerfhorst@uva.nl](mailto:h.g.vandewerfhorst@uva.nl)  
[www.equalsoc.org](http://www.equalsoc.org)



## AMSTERDAM INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED LABOUR STUDIES (AIAS)

*University of Amsterdam*

Plantage Muidergracht 12  
NL - 1018 TV Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31 20 525 4199  
Fax: +31 20 525 4301  
E-mail: [aias@uva.nl](mailto:aias@uva.nl)  
[www.uva-aias.net](http://www.uva-aias.net)

## Partners

### ★ AIAS-SCHOLAR , Amsterdam

AIAS is an interdisciplinary expert centre for research and teaching on industrial relations, organisation of work, wage formation, labour market inequalities and social policy. AIAS maintains databases on trade union membership, collective bargaining and labour market institutions, and collective agreements. SCHOLAR is a research group of the Faculty of Economics. It studies the efficiency of the transition from education and the labour market, its consequences for economic development, and the equity aspects of the transition process.

### ★ Centre for Social Policy (CSB) , Antwerp

The Centre's principal objective is to study the adequacy of social policies. Its research is mainly based on large-scale socio-economic surveys of households in Belgium and Flanders. The Centre seeks to link developments in the distribution of welfare and poverty to broader socio-demographic and economic trends, and to explain the actual and possible role government policies can play in this regard. For this purpose the Centre has developed a micro-simulation model (MISIM).

### ★ CNRS, Paris

The CNRS (National Scientific Research Centre/ Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) is a state-funded scientific organization under the authority of the French Ministry of Education and Research.

### ★ ESRI, Dublin

The Economic and Social Research Institute is Ireland's leading centre for applied research in the social sciences. The ESRI is an independent, not-for-profit organisation, with the mission of bringing the latest thinking in economics and the social sciences to the actual and potential problems of Irish society. Organisational goals of the ESRI are academic excellence, objectivity relevance To policy, and widespread dissemination of results.

### ★ MZES, Mannheim

The Mannheim Centre for European Social Research is an interdisciplinary research institute of the University of Mannheim. It is Germany's largest university-based social science research centre and is among Europe's leading centres for the comparative study of the development and integration of the European societies and the European political systems. It is affiliated to the faculty of social sciences (University of Mannheim), which ranks at the top (place 1) in the field of sociology and political science in Germany according to several national and international rankings.

### ★ Nuffield College, Oxford

Nuffield is the specialist social science college of the University of Oxford. It has particular strengths in Economics, Politics and Sociology. The College has a strong tradition of quantitative social science, making extensive use of large-scale data sets (both Cross-sectional and longitudinal).

### ★ SOFI, Stockholm

The Swedish Institute for Social Research (SOFI) conducts research on questions related to living conditions, welfare, social inequality, social policy and labour market policy. Research at SOFI is organised within three research divisions: labour economics, level of living and social policy.

### ★ Unimib, Università Degli Studi di Milano, Milan

The common commitment of scholars working at UNIMIB is to carry out theoretically informed empirical studies, using advanced quantitative and qualitative social research techniques.

### ★ University of Pompeu Fabre, Barcelona

The UPF's economics department is ranked among the top in Europe and the Political and Social Science department is ranked among the best in Southern Europe. Within the political and social sciences department, main research fields include public policies and regulation, comparative social policy and welfare states, research on social inequalities and poverty, demography and the family, labour markets and employment.

### ★ University of Tartu

The Faculty of Social Sciences includes the departments of Journalism and Social Communication; Political Sciences; Public Administration; Psychology; Semiotics; Sociology and Social Policy. Currently there are two major streams of research in the Department of Sociology and Social Policy that could be brought under the common denominator of life-course studies and welfare and social policy studies. The direction of life-course studies also includes studies into social stratification. The direction of welfare and social policy studies has been built up on the basis of family and welfare studies.

### ★ University of Torino

The Department of Social Sciences, one of the largest in Italy, includes sociologists belonging to four faculties in the University of Torino: Political Sciences; Education; Literature and Philosophy; and Economics. The Department organizes a Ph.D. programme on comparative social research.

### ★ University of Trento

The Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento carries out cutting-edge research often relying upon innovative techniques of field research such as panel studies, content analysis and, more recently, network analysis. The Department has successfully attracted both national and international funds in 23 highly competitive application processes.

### ★ WZB, Berlin

The Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (Social Science Research Centre, Berlin) is structured into four research areas which are composed of a total of eight research units and seven working groups, with around 140 social scientists. The participation of the WZB in the EQUALSOC Network is implemented by the research unit 'Inequality and Social Integration'